Carson
P.O. Box 39
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Mr. Sabres,

On the enclosed tape are two Blue Ram Extended Basic programs, one on each side. My 12 year old son David did "Moon Lander" and the "Golf" program is mine. The golf game is a language conversion of Bob Hensel's golf (Vol. 3, p. 44) to X.B. The game is the same except to begin you are asked "No. of Players" then you are asked "NO. of HOLES: 9 OR 18?". We felt the original game was excellent and playing 18 makes it just a bit more competitive. Also there is lots of room left for individuals to make changes or additions.

Before you file away "Moon Lander" as just "another Lunar Lander" program, please give it a look. David is 12 and has never been exposed to a computer before the "Bally." He decided a couple of weeks ago to do a "Lunar Lander" on his own. He had access to noone else's program. He did, however, use the graphic from vol. 3 page 83, but not with the assembler.

You are given 5 "ships". As long as you don't "destroy" any you keep 5. The landscape is random. Sometimes very easy, sometimes very difficult. Both feet of the ship must touch at exactly the same time or the ship will be destroyed. You may land on a flat, straddle a "point," or straddle a "gully" as long as both feet touch together.

On the way down in "free fall" you have a bit of left or right movement on the joystick. Sometime before "touchdown" you must fire the "thruster rockets" to soften the landing (if not, your ship may crash and be destroyed). The thrusters are ignited with the trigger. Once fired they may not be turned off. In "thrust" the left and right movement is increased, but use thrusters sparingly, they consume a lot of "fuel" (Points).

(over please)

The scoring is based on:

a good landing is 100 points minus 5 points for each program cycle with the thrusters on.

a destroyed vehicle is -25 points. Vehicle is destroyed as a result of uneven landing or a crash landing.

Be sure to use the "Radar screen" as a landing aid. It shows the terrain directly beneath the vehicle at all times.

The game is not a super challenge nor is it super easy but it is fun and rather interesting.

We very much appreciate your efforts on the "Arcadian", keep up the good work.

Sincerely

David Larson I

P.S. my mailing label reads "P.O. Box C" and my postmaster is giving me static over it. I'm not sure if he would send one back or not but if possible please change to P.O. Box 39. Thanks